

Belhaven
Southwest side of Western
Run Rd. near Gerber Lane
Not accessible
1835

Belhaven's datestone in the east wall indicates that it was erected in 1835 by Thomas C. Bosley. The property was part of a large estate put together by Bosley's father, Daniel, and divided among his three sons. This house is also significant for its large number of surviving outbuildings and because it remained in the Bosley family for 111 years until purchased by the present owners.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Belhaven

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Southwest side of Western Run Road near Gerber Lane

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

L. McLane Fisher

Telephone #: 771-4684

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Cockeysville

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21030

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Towson Courthouse

Liber #: 1449

Folio #: 116

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

24-84

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Belhaven is a two storey house of stone, the main part of which is five bays in length, facing north, symmetrical with its principal entrance centered, with a gable roof and flush end chimneys of brick. South of the east room is a rear wing, also of stone, two storeys in height, five bays in length, with a gable roof and a flush brick chimney at the south end. The wing is slightly lower than the main house; the roughly-worked quoins of the southeast corner of the latter from the eave of the wing to the eave of the main house, and the absence of a joint in the rubble masonry below, together with roughly-worked quoins at the south end of the northerly three bays, indicate that those three bays were built simultaneously with the main house. The quoins defining the original southwest corner of the wing extend only to the height of the second storey window sills, and straight joints in the masonry and unused stone sills below those windows suggest that they were once nearly at the second floor line. The cornice of the main house once existed on framing members visible in the wing's attic. All this evidence indicates that the original wing was shed-roofed, its peak above its east wall, its upper west windows small, near the second floor, immediately below the west eave. The wing appears to have been raised to its present height when the southerly two bays were added, probably very shortly after the original portions were completed. The south bay of the later section of the rear wing is wider than the original wing, the extra width being covered by a

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

B + 5 1

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1834

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Belhaven was built by Thomas C. Bosley in 1835, as evidenced by the datestone on the east wall. The property was part of the large estate put together by Daniel Bosley, father of Thomas C. Bosley, and divided at his death between three sons. Daniel Bosley was a member of a prominent Baltimore County family which settled in the vicinity in the mid-eighteenth century. He was a member of the Methodist faith and his family donated land on which to build the present Bosley Methodist Church and graveyard (q.v.).

This farm was inherited by the eldest son and willed by him to a nephew, Thomas C. Bosley, Jr. It remained in the ownership of that branch of the family until 1946 when it was sold to the present owners who gave it the name Belhaven.

Belhaven was the home of a very prosperous farmer. The large number of supporting outbuildings which remain add to its significance and indicate the numerous buildings required to support rural life. With its reliable datestone, it is a standard by which other undated structures in the region may be compared.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Baltimore County tax assessments: 1833, 1876, 1896.

Will of Daniel Bosley: Liber JLR 1, Folio 172 etc.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Baltimore City and Baltimore County.
(Philadelphia, 1881).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 233.46 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Catharine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr. AIA

ORGANIZATION

For Valleys Historical District Project

DATE

September 1976

STREET & NUMBER

1114 Bellemore Road

TELEPHONE

323-3798

CITY OR TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Continuation Sheet #1

Question #7 continued

low-pitched shed-roof extending from the upper west slope.

High in the east gable of the main house is a stone inscribed with the date 1835.

Windows in the main section of the house are 9/6 in the first storey, 6/6 in the second; windows in the wing are 6/6, and all are flanked by louvered blinds. Masonry above the north windows is supported by brick jack arches, those of the first storey being constructed of very long rubbed bricks; above the south windows, masonry is supported by large, roughly-worked stone lintels, on which remain the faded red traces of painted false jack arches. Masonry above the east windows of the original wing is supported by brick jack arches, while west windows, and windows in the addition to the wing have false jack arches painted on the stone lintel. A window at mid-storey height in the middle bay of the south facade above the south door marks the stair landing inside. The six-paneled door and transom, centered on the north facade, is surrounded with matching paneled jambs. A one storey hip-roofed porch extends across the middle three of the five bays in the rear wing; a one storey shed-roofed addition of stone at the south end of the rear wing, and a one storey stone addition west of the main house, were added in recent years.

Roofs are of standing-seam tin over wood shingle. The simple wood cornices return against the masonry at the corners, and barge boards are flat against the gable ends.

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

Continuation Sheet #2

Question #7 continued

Internally, a center hall extends through the middle bay of the main house, with an open staircase extending to the third floor. Its round rail is supported by slim turned newels and rectangular balusters. A single room on either side flanks the hall; north of the east room's chimney breast, a built-in cupboard, enclosed with a pair of upper and a pair of lower doors, suggests it was originally the dining room. Each room retains its original mantel: that of the west room consists of round Tuscan columns supporting a frieze with bold horizontal reeding, and in the east room, pilasters supporting a paneled frieze. Boldly reeded architraves meet at turned corner blocks; doors are six paneled; window jambs and aprons are paneled. There are no chair rails (and there never were).

Finishes in the rear wing are simpler; the original room has no fireplace, nor is there a stone wall between it and the south room. Such construction may have been removed to gain more space when the latter was built. A single flue chimney was built into the (raised) west wall of the northerly room, suggesting the use of stoves, but a large cooking fireplace was included in the southerly room, now closed. An enclosed staircase winds to the second floor west of the kitchen chimney, and another enclosed straight stair rises between the two wing rooms.

The second floor plan of the main house is similar to the first, with slightly simpler trim. Closets flank the front chimney breasts. The rear wing is divided into several small, simple rooms.

In the unfinished attic, the rafters are half-lapped and pegged at the ridge; there are no collar beams. The wing's roof is of uniform

(See Continuation Sheet #3)

Continuation Sheet #3

Question #7 continued

construction, the sawn rafters being similarly joined at their ridge.

The cellar extends only under the main portion of the house, and the first floor joists are straight sawn. An exterior hatch entrance to the cellar is centered on the east end.

Early outbuildings include a framed smokehouse, a stone spring house, a stone barn, and the remains of a stone grainery, once typical of many in the region.

The one storey gable-roofed smokehouse is constructed of hewn timbers joined with mortise and tenon; its rafters are mitered at the ridge. Exterior walls are sheathed with board and batten siding, and small, open shed-roofed additions extend to the east and south.

The west eave of the gable roofed stone spring house is cantilevered several feet beyond the west wall, sheltering the entrance to the spring room. The roof's framed north gable cantilevers several feet to shelter an exterior stair and entrance to the upper room of the spring house. A louvered opening through the south wall ventilates the spring room below, while a small window in the stone south gable lights the upper room.

The interior of the barn was destroyed by fire about 1941, but it has been rebuilt. Its original stone north and south ends remain with pierced brick ventilators in the shape of an hourglass. The barn is two storeys in height at its east side and the upper wall is of frame construction, sheathed in vertical siding. A long, one tall storey, shed-roofed addition extends across its upper west side, of framed construction, sheathed in vertical siding.

(See Continuation Sheet #4)

Continuation Sheet #4

Question #7 continued

Two buttressed stone walls of the former grainery remain; originally, log joists supported an upper floor, beneath which wagons were driven between the two stone side walls. Several other graineries of this type remain on nearby farms.

A mounting block stands in front of the house, consisting of two long single-stone steps leading to a top platform of several stones, the whole supported by a solid, rubble stone base.